

• **Commissioner Mtg. 07/16/07 @ 9:00 p.m. in County Commissioners Room**

Those present:

Thomas Wilson

Eric Roberts

Don Vonder Meulen

Franklin County Chief Deputy Auditor: Veronica Voelker

Franklin County Deputy Auditor: Andrea L. Arthur

Thomas Wilson opens meeting with pledge of allegiance

- I. Weekly Property Tax Report
 - a. Thomas Wilson – Veronica, where are we with tax bills?
 - b. Veronica Voelker – We are still waiting on approval for rates
 - c. John Estridge – I have heard part of the hold up is due to what is happening in Marion County.
- II. Minutes (July 9, 2007)
 - a. Eric Roberts – makes a motion to approve
 - b. Thomas Wilson – seconds the motion
 - c. Don Vonder Meulen – all in favor
- III. Claims (July 16, 007)
 - a. Thomas Wilson – Do we want to talk about the lawsuit claim?
 - b. Don Vonder Meulen – Did you have a chance to read the (my) email?
 - c. Eric Roberts – Lou (Linkel) was named because he was the Commissioner involved.
 - d. Thomas Wilson – I have spoken with several members of the County Council and they have stated you should be the one to pay for the attorney fees.
 - e. Don Vonder Meulen – Tom, for the first four months of the year the county paid my salary to Lou (Linkel)
 - f. Thomas Wilson – When did you find the position was a hold over office?
 - g. Don Vonder Meulen – Tom, it doesn't matter
 - h. Eric Roberts – why don't you take it to Council and see if they will appropriate the funds?
 - i. Don Vonder Meulen – if I have to I can do this but Commissioners pay claims. We need to make a decision and put this behind us.
 - j. John Estridge – Can you do that – sign the claim?
 - k. Don Vonder Meulen – what money was Lou's attorney fees paid from?
 - l. Susan Jones – rainy day fund
 - m. Don Vonder Meulen – We paid Lou's attorney fees and his were less important than mine. I think they should be paid out of the rainy day fund.
 - n. Thomas Wilson – sign the claim and send it in. If County Council says to pay it, then we'll pay it.
 - o. Don Vonder Meulen – past practices have been for a different Commissioner to sign the claim.
 - p. Thomas Wilson – Personally, I don't know. Maybe this is something we will need to ask of the State Board of Accounts. We don't know what account to pay it out of, the rainy day fund?
 - q. Don Vonder Meulen – What I can do is put that it is to come out of the rainy day fund.
 - r. Eric Roberts – I am going to move to approve the claims as advertised.
 - s. Don Vonder Meulen – I second
 - t. Thomas Wilson – all in favor
- IV. Treasurer's Report (June 2007)
 - a. Thomas Wilson-motions to approve Treasurer Report for June 2007
 - b. Eric Roberts-Seconds the motion
 - c. Don Vonder Meulen- all in favor
- V. USDA Letter of Authorization
 - a. Thomas Wilson- I make the motion we go ahead and approve this letter.
 - b. Eric Roberts- explains the reason for the letter
 - c. Don Vonder Meulen- seconds the motion
 - d. Eric Roberts- all in favor
- VI. EPA Update
 - a. John Estridge- what do we know about the EPA lawsuit?
 - b. Thomas Wilson- still waiting on attorneys, etc.
- VII. DNR Letter Acknowledging Flood Map Coordination Meeting on July 25, 2007
 - a. Eric Roberts- Describes reason for letter
 - b. Thomas Wilson-says if there are any questions, there is a number to call. We can go ahead and contact them for more information.
 - c. Thomas Wilson-George Hartman did you receive a letter?
 - d. George Hartman-No, I did not.
 - e. Thomas Wilson-Joe you're the County Surveyor, here is a copy to read
- VIII. Weekly Highway Report, George Hartman
 - a. Bridge #100 Johnson Fork Road over Tributary of Johnson Fork North of Snowhill Road Covered Bridge
 - i. Excavation and hauling of soil from East embankment
 - ii. North end of project complete
 - b. Bridge #110/ Railfence Road over Salt Creek and Bridge #111 / Rail Fence Road over Harvey Branch
 - i. Winter letting isn't bad-looking at the plans, there will be necessary detour
 - ii. Traffic will be taken across the low water crossing RA-2901. (see photos)

- iii. Temporary repairs should be completed by Franklin County Highway Dept. (Dist. 3)
 - c. Bridge #94 Blue Creek Road over Blue Creek
 - i. Joe Gillespie – From my perspective Bridges #110 and #111 have jumped to a higher priority. The only reason I am here today is to talk about this bridge. They want to meet with the Commissioners again.
 - ii. Still waiting on some information about this. There are still some questions as to the break down of the bill/claim.
 - d. Bridge Inspection Phase I and Phase II
 - i. James Evans has provided a report and has broken it down into districts. (see handout) What we ought to do is to take a look and see where signage is missing and where new signing is needed. Cum. Bridge might not have a lot of money but should take a look at what is offered by the State. I'll be sure to give the foreman copies of the report as well.
- IX. Weekly Highway Secretary Report, Hollie Sintz
 - i. I did our appropriations. They are getting down there, bad. That just gives you an idea of where we are at. We are just waiting (on budget approval).
 - ii. Don Vonder Meulen – Hollie, when we were talking about the patcher last week, Chester (Ball) was talking about what a good idea it was.
 - iii. Hollie Sintz – the material is coming out of
 - iv. Thomas Wilson – that machine is coming out of
 - v. Hollie Sintz – if you ask me they didn't save that much. That is about it.
 - vi. Don Vonder Meulen – the department meeting will be Thursday at 1:00 PM.
- X. Re-adjourn from break
- XI. Payroll
 - a. Don Vonder Meulen – I make the motion to approve the payroll.
 - b. Eric Roberts – I second the motion. Note that Rick Gill and Rene Stivers need to sign theirs.
- XII. Adjourn
 - a. Don Vonder Meulen – motion to adjourn
 - b. Eric Roberts – seconds the motion

Those also present:

Susan Jones, Secretary
 Carol Westerman
 John Estridge, Whitewater Publications

George Hartman, County Engineer
 Sharon Halcomb, Assessor

Hollie Sintz, Secretary Highway
 Mike Selke, News Examiner
 Joe Gillespie, County Surveyor

To be approved July 30, 2007